

Application No. 10/583,567
Amdt. dated March 4, 2009
Response to the Office Action of November 4, 2008

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

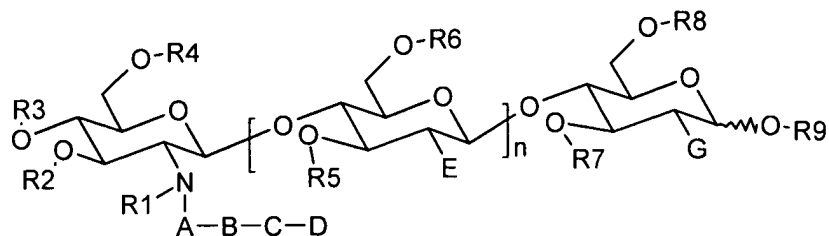
Remarks/Arguments begin on page 53 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A compound of formula (I)



(I)

in which

n represents 1, 2 or 3;

A represents a substituent ~~chosen~~ selected from the group consisting of -C(O)-, -C(S)-, and -CH₂-, ~~-CHR¹⁰-, -CR¹⁰R¹¹-, -C(O)O-, -C(O)S-, -C(S)O-, -C(S)S-, -C(O)NH-, -C(NH)NH-~~ and -C(S)NH-;

B ~~represents~~ is selected from the group consisting of

an arylene; and

~~a heteroarylene comprising 1 or 2 hetero atoms chosen from nitrogen, oxygen and~~

~~sulfur;~~

a naphthylene;

Application No. 10/583,567
Amdt. dated March 4, 2009
Response to the Office Action of November 4, 2008

~~a heteronaphthylene comprising 1 or 2 hetero atoms chosen from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur;~~

~~————— a divalent radical derived from 2 fused aromatic rings containing 5 or 6 atoms each;~~

~~————— a divalent radical derived from 2 fused aromatic or heteroaromatic rings containing 5 or 6 atoms each and comprising 1 or 2 hetero atoms chosen from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur;~~

~~————— a biphenylene; or a~~

~~————— heterobiphenylene comprising 1 or 2 hetero atoms chosen from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur;~~

~~these groups possibly being substituted with one or two substituents R^{12} and R^{13} chosen, independently of each other, from halogen, CN, $C(O)OR^{14}$, $C(O)NR^{15}R^{16}$, CF_3 , OCF_3 , NO_2 , N_3 , OR^{14} , SR^{14} , $NR^{15}R^{16}$ and C_{1-6} -alkyl;~~

~~C represents a substituent chosen selected from the group consisting of -O-, -S-, -CH₂-, -CHR¹⁷-, -CR¹⁷R¹⁸-, -NH- and -NR¹⁹ and CH-(C₁-C₆alkyl);~~

~~D represents a linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon-based chain containing from 2 to 20 carbon atoms;~~

~~E and G represent, independently of each other, a substituent chosen selected from the group consisting of H, OH, OR^{20} , NH_2 and NHR^{20} OC(O)CH₃ and NHC(O)CH₃;~~

Application No. 10/583,567
Amdt. dated March 4, 2009
Response to the Office Action of November 4, 2008

R¹ represents a substituent ~~chosen~~ selected from the group consisting of H, C₁₋₆-alkyl, C(O)H and C(O)CH₃;

R², R³, R⁶, ~~R¹⁴, R¹⁵, R¹⁶ and R¹⁹~~ represent, independently of each other, a substituent ~~chosen~~ selected from the group consisting of H, C₁₋₆-alkyl, C(O)C₁₋₆-alkyl, -C(S)C₁₋₆-alkyl, -C(O)OC₁₋₆-alkyl, -C(O)NH₂, -C(S)NH₂, -C(NH)NH₂, -C(O)NHC₁₋₆-alkyl, -C(S)NHC₁₋₆-alkyl and -C(NH)NHC₁₋₆-alkyl;

R⁴ represents a substituent ~~chosen~~ selected from the group consisting of H, C₁₋₆-alkyl and R²¹;

R⁵ represents a substituent ~~chosen~~ selected from the group consisting of H, C₁₋₆-alkyl, fucosyl and R²²;

R⁷ represents a substituent ~~chosen~~ selected from the group consisting of H, C₁₋₆-alkyl, arabinosyl and R²³;

R⁸ represents a substituent ~~chosen~~ selected from the group consisting of H, C₁₋₆-alkyl, fucosyl, methylfucosyl, sulfofucosyl, acetylfucosyl, arabinosyl, SQH, SO₃Li, SO₃Na, SO₃K, SO₃N(C₁₋₈alkyl)₄ and R²⁴;

R⁹ represents a substituent ~~chosen~~ selected from the group consisting of H, C₁₋₆-alkyl, mannose, glycerol and R²⁵;

~~R¹⁰, R¹¹, R¹⁷ and R¹⁸ represent, independently of each other, a substituent chosen from~~
C₁₋₆-alkyl and F;

Application No. 10/583,567
Amdt. dated March 4, 2009
Response to the Office Action of November 4, 2008

R^{20} , R^{21} , R^{22} , R^{23} , R^{24} and R^{25} represent, independently of each other, a substituent ~~chosen~~
selected from the group consisting of $C(O)C_{1-6}$ -alkyl, $-C(S)C_{1-6}$ -alkyl, $-C(O)OC_{1-6}$ -alkyl,
 $-C(O)NH_2$, $-C(S)NH_2$, $-C(NH)NH_2$, $-C(O)NHC_{1-6}$ -alkyl, $-C(S)NHC_{1-6}$ -alkyl and $-C(NH)NHC_{1-6}$ -
alkyl;
and also the possible geometrical and/or optical isomers, enantiomers and/or diastereoisomers,
tautomers, salts, N-oxides, sulfoxides, sulfones, and metal or metalloid complexes thereof[.]]
~~which that are agriculturally acceptable, such as lithium, sodium, potassium and~~
~~tetraalkylammonium salts.~~

2. (Currently Amended) The compound of formula (I) ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 1, having at
least one or other of the following characteristics, ~~taken separately or in combination:~~

n represents 2 or 3;

A ~~represents~~ is selected from the group consisting of $-C(O)-$ ~~or~~ and $-CH_2-$;

B represents a phenylene;

C represents $-O-$;

D represents a linear, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon-based chain containing from
3 to 17 carbon atoms;

E and G represent $NHC(O)CH_3$;

R^1 ~~represents~~ is selected from the group consisting of H, CH_3 ~~or~~ and $C(O)CH_3$;

R^2 , R^3 , R^5 , R^6 , R^7 and R^9 represent H;

Application No. 10/583,567

Amdt. dated March 4, 2009

Response to the Office Action of November 4, 2008

R⁴ represents is selected from the group consisting of H, C(O)CH₃ or and C(O)NH₂;

R⁸ represents is selected from the group consisting of H, SO₃H, SO₃Li, SO₃Na, SO₃K,
SO₃N(C₁₋₈ alkyl)₄, fucosyl or and methylfucosyl.

3. (Currently Amended) The compound of formula (I) ~~as claimed in~~ of claim

1; ~~simultaneously having the following characteristics wherein:~~

n represents 2 or 3;

A represents is selected from the group consisting of -C(O)- or and -CH₂-;

E and G represent NHC(O)CH₃;

R¹ represents is selected from the group consisting of H, CH₃ or and C(O)CH₃;

R², R³, R⁵, R⁶, R⁷ and R⁹ represent H;

R⁴ represents is selected from the group consisting of H, C(O)CH₃ or and C(O)NH₂; and

R⁸ represents is selected from the group consisting of H, SO₃H, SO₃Li, SO₃Na, SO₃K,
SO₃N(C₁₋₈alkyl)₄, fucosyl or and methylfucosyl.

4. (Currently Amended) The compound of formula (I) ~~as claimed in~~ of claim

1 ~~simultaneously having the following characteristics wherein:~~

n represents 2 or 3;

A represents is selected from the group consisting of -C(O)- or and -CH₂-;

Application No. 10/583,567
Amdt. dated March 4, 2009
Response to the Office Action of November 4, 2008

D represents a linear, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon-based chain containing from 3 to 17 carbon atoms;

E and G represent NHC(O)CH_3 ;

R^1 ~~represents~~ is selected from the group consisting of H, CH_3 or and C(O)CH_3 ;

R^2 , R^3 , R^5 , R^6 , R^7 and R^9 represent H;

R^4 ~~represents~~ is selected from the group consisting of H, C(O)CH_3 or and C(O)NH_2 ; and

R^8 ~~represents~~ is selected from the group consisting of H, SO_3H , SO_3Li , SO_3Na , SO_3K , $\text{SO}_3\text{N}(\text{C}_{1-8}\text{alkyl})_4$, fucosyl or and methylfucosyl.

5. (Currently Amended) The compound of formula (I) ~~as claimed in~~ of claim

1, ~~simultaneously having the following characteristics~~ wherein:

n represents 2 or 3;

A ~~represents~~ is selected from the group consisting of $-\text{C(O)}-$ or and $-\text{CH}_2-$;

C represents $-\text{O}-$;

D represents a linear, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon-based chain containing from 3 to 17 carbon atoms;

E and G represent NHC(O)CH_3 ;

R^1 ~~represents~~ is selected from the group consisting of H, CH_3 or and C(O)CH_3 ;

R^2 , R^3 , R^5 , R^6 , R^7 and R^9 represent H;

R^4 ~~represents~~ is selected from the group consisting of H, C(O)CH_3 or and C(O)NH_2 ; and

Application No. 10/583,567
Amdt. dated March 4, 2009
Response to the Office Action of November 4, 2008

R^8 ~~represents~~ is selected from the group consisting of H, SO_3H , SO_3Li , SO_3Na , SO_3K , $SO_3N(C_{1-8}alkyl)_4$, fucosyl ~~or~~ and methylfucosyl.

6. (Currently Amended) The compound of formula (I) ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 1;
~~simultaneously having the following characteristics wherein:~~

n represents 2 or 3;

A ~~represents~~ is selected from the group consisting of $-C(O)-$ ~~or~~ and $-CH_2-$;

B represents a phenylene;

C represents $-O-$;

D represents a linear hydrocarbon-based chain containing 11 carbons, which is saturated,
or unsaturated between carbons 4 and 5;

E and G represent $NHC(O)CH_3$;

R^1 ~~represents~~ is selected from the group consisting of H, CH_3 ~~or~~ and $C(O)CH_3$;

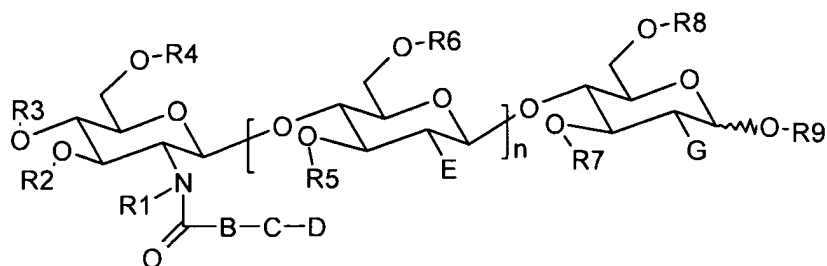
R^2 , R^3 , R^5 , R^6 , R^7 and R^9 represent H;

R^4 ~~represents~~ is selected from the group consisting of H, $C(O)CH_3$ ~~or~~ and $C(O)NH_2$; and

R^8 ~~represents~~ is selected from the group consisting of H, SO_3H , SO_3Li , SO_3Na , SO_3K , $SO_3N(C_{1-8}alkyl)_4$, fucosyl ~~or~~ and methylfucosyl.

Application No. 10/583,567
Amdt. dated March 4, 2009
Response to the Office Action of November 4, 2008

7. (Currently Amended) The compound as claimed in claim 1 and of formula (Ia)



(Ia)

in which

n represents 1, 2 or 3,

B represents is selected from the group consisting of

an arylene;

~~_____ a heteroarylene comprising 1 or 2 hetero atoms chosen from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur;~~

and a naphthylene;

~~_____ a heteronaphthylene comprising 1 or 2 hetero atoms chosen from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur;~~

~~_____ a divalent radical derived from 2 fused aromatic rings containing 5 or 6 atoms each;~~

Application No. 10/583,567
Amdt. dated March 4, 2009
Response to the Office Action of November 4, 2008

~~_____ a divalent radical derived from 2 fused aromatic or heteroaromatic rings containing 5 or 6 atoms each and comprising 1 or 2 hetero atoms chosen from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur;~~

~~_____ a biphenylene; or a~~

~~_____ heterobiphenylene comprising 1 or 2 hetero atoms chosen from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur;~~

~~_____ these groups possibly being substituted with one or two substituents R^{t2} and R^{t3} chosen, independently of each other, from halogen, CN, $C(O)OR^{t4}$, $C(O)NR^{t5}R^{t6}$, CF_3 , OCF_3 , $-NO_2$, N_3 , OR^{t4} , SR^{t4} , $NR^{t5}R^{t6}$ and C_{1-6} -alkyl;~~

C represents a substituent ~~chosen~~ selected from the group consisting of -O-, -S-, -CH₂-, ~~-CHR^{t7}-, -CR^{t7}R^{t8}-, -NH- or -NR^{t9}~~ and CH-(C₁-C₆alkyl);

D represents a linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon-based chain containing from 2 to 20 carbon atoms;

E and G represent, independently of each other, a substituent ~~chosen~~ selected from the group consisting of H, OH, ΘR^{20} , NH_2 , NHR^{20} , OC(O)CH₃ and NHC(O)CH₃;

R¹ represents a substituent ~~chosen~~ selected from the group consisting of H, C₁₋₆-alkyl, C(O)H, and C(O)CH₃;

R², R³, and R⁶ represent, independently of each other, a substituent ~~chosen~~ selected from the group consisting of H, C₁₋₆-alkyl, C(O)C₁₋₆-alkyl, -C(S)C₁₋₆-alkyl, -C(O)OC₁₋₆-alkyl,

Application No. 10/583,567
Amdt. dated March 4, 2009
Response to the Office Action of November 4, 2008

-C(O)NH₂, -C(S)NH₂, -C(NH)NH₂, -C(O)NHC₁₋₆-alkyl, -C(S)NHC₁₋₆-alkyl ~~or~~ and
-C(NH)NHC₁₋₆-alkyl;

R⁴ represents a substituent ~~chosen~~ selected from the group consisting of H, C₁₋₆-alkyl ~~or~~
and R²¹;

R⁵ represents a substituent ~~chosen~~ selected from the group consisting of H, C₁₋₆-alkyl,
fucosyl ~~or~~ and R²²;

R⁷ represents a substituent ~~chosen~~ selected from the group consisting of H, C₁₋₆-alkyl,
arabinosyl ~~or~~ and R²³;

R⁸ represents a substituent ~~chosen~~ selected from the group consisting of H, C₁₋₆-alkyl,
fucosyl, methylfucosyl, sulfofucosyl, acetylfucosyl, arabinosyl, SO₃H, SO₃Li, SO₃Na, SO₃K,
SO₃N(C₁₋₈alkyl)₄ ~~or~~ and R²⁴;

R⁹ represents a substituent ~~chosen~~ selected from the group consisting of H, C₁₋₆-alkyl,
mannose, glycerol ~~or~~ and R²⁵;

~~R¹⁰, R¹¹, R¹⁷ and R¹⁸ represent, independently of each other, a substituent chosen from~~
~~C₁₋₆-alkyl or F;~~

~~R¹⁴, R¹⁵, R¹⁶ and R¹⁹ represent, independently of each other, a substituent chosen from H~~
~~or C₁₋₆-alkyl, -C(O)C₁₋₆-alkyl, -C(S)C₁₋₆-alkyl, -C(O)OC₁₋₆-alkyl, -C(O)NH₂, -C(S)NH₂,~~
~~-C(NH)NH₂, -C(O)NHC₁₋₆-alkyl, -C(S)NHC₁₋₆-alkyl or -C(NH)NHC₁₋₆-alkyl;~~

~~—————~~ R²⁰, R²¹, R²², R²³, R²⁴ and R²⁵ represent, independently of each other, a substituent ~~chosen~~
selected from the group consisting of C(O)C₁₋₆-alkyl, -C(S)C₁₋₆-alkyl, -C(O)OC₁₋₆-alkyl,

Application No. 10/583,567
Amdt. dated March 4, 2009
Response to the Office Action of November 4, 2008

-C(O)NH₂, -C(S)NH₂, -C(NH)NH₂, -C(O)NHC₁₋₆-alkyl, -C(S)NHC₁₋₆-alkyl or
-C(NH)NHC₁₋₆-alkyl;

and also the possible geometrical and/or optical isomers, enantiomers and/or diastereoisomers, tautomers, salts, N-oxides, sulfoxides, sulfones, and metal or metalloid complexes thereof, ~~which~~ that are agriculturally acceptable. ~~Among the compounds defined above, the most important compounds are the salts, more particularly the lithium, sodium, potassium or tetraalkylammonium salts.~~

8. (Currently Amended) The compound of formula (Ia) ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 7, having at least one or other of the following characteristics, ~~taken separately or in combination:~~

n represents 2 or 3;

B represents a phenylene;

C represents -O-;

D represents a linear, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon-based chain containing from 3 to 17 carbon atoms;

E and G represent NHC(O)CH₃;

R¹ ~~represents~~ is selected from the group consisting of H or and CH₃;

R², R³, R⁵, R⁶, R⁷ and R⁹ represent H;

R⁴ ~~represents~~ is selected from the group consisting of H, C(O)CH₃ or and C(O)NH₂;

Application No. 10/583,567
Amdt. dated March 4, 2009
Response to the Office Action of November 4, 2008

R^8 ~~represents~~ is selected from the group consisting of H, SO_3H , SO_3Li , SO_3Na , SO_3K , $\text{SO}_3\text{N}(\text{C}_{1-8}\text{alkyl})_4$, fucosyl ~~or~~ and methylfucosyl.

9. (Currently Amended) The compound of formula (Ia) ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 7;
~~simultaneously having the following characteristics wherein:~~

n represents 2 or 3;

E and G represent $\text{NHC}(\text{O})\text{CH}_3$;

R^1 ~~represents~~ is selected from the group consisting of H ~~or~~ and CH_3 ;

R^2 , R^3 , R^5 , R^6 , R^7 and R^9 represent H;

R^4 ~~represents~~ is selected from the group consisting of H, $\text{C}(\text{O})\text{CH}_3$ ~~or~~ and $\text{C}(\text{O})\text{NH}_2$;

R^8 ~~represents~~ is selected from the group consisting of H, SO_3H , SO_3Li , SO_3Na , SO_3K , $\text{SO}_3\text{N}(\text{C}_{1-8}\text{alkyl})_4$, fucosyl ~~or~~ and methylfucosyl.

10. (Currently Amended) The compound of formula (Ia) ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 7;
~~simultaneously having the following characteristics wherein:~~

n represents 2 or 3;

D represents a linear, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon-based chain containing from 3 to 17 carbon atoms;

E and G represent $\text{NHC}(\text{O})\text{CH}_3$;

R^1 ~~represents~~ is selected from the group consisting of H ~~or~~ and CH_3 ;

Application No. 10/583,567
Amdt. dated March 4, 2009
Response to the Office Action of November 4, 2008

R^2 , R^3 , R^5 , R^6 , R^7 and R^9 represent H;

R^4 represents is selected from the group consisting of H, C(O)CH₃ or and C(O)NH₂;

R^8 represents is selected from the group consisting of H, SO₃H, SO₃Li, SO₃Na, SO₃K, SO₃N(C₁₋₈alkyl)₄, fucosyl or and methylfucosyl.

11. (Currently Amended) The compound of formula (Ia) ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 7;
simultaneously having the following characteristics wherein:

n represents 2 or 3;

C represents -O-;

D represents a linear, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon-based chain containing from 3 to 17 carbon atoms;

E and G represent NHC(O)CH₃;

R^1 represents is selected from the group consisting of H or and CH₃;

R^2 , R^3 , R^5 , R^6 , R^7 and R^9 represent H;

R^4 represents is selected from the group consisting of H, C(O)CH₃ or and C(O)NH₂;

R^8 represents is selected from the group consisting of H, SO₃H, SO₃Li, SO₃Na, SO₃K, SO₃N(C₁₋₈alkyl)₄, fucosyl or and methylfucosyl.

12. (Currently Amended) The compound of formula (Ia) ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 7;
simultaneously having the following characteristics wherein:

Application No. 10/583,567

Amdt. dated March 4, 2009

Response to the Office Action of November 4, 2008

n represents 2 or 3;

B represents a phenylene;

C represents -O-;

D represents a linear hydrocarbon-based chain containing 11 carbons, which is saturated,
or unsaturated between carbons 4 and 5;

E and G represent NHC(O)CH_3 ;

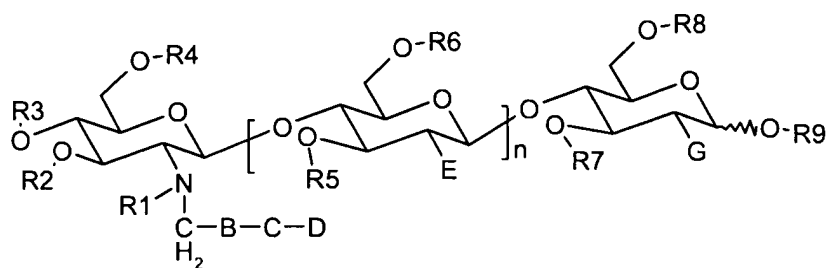
R^1 represents is selected from the group consisting of H or and CH_3 ;

R^2 , R^3 , R^5 , R^6 , R^7 and R^9 represent H;

R^4 represents is selected from the group consisting of H, C(O)CH_3 or and C(O)NH_2 ;

R^8 represents is selected from the group consisting of H, SO_3H , SO_3Li , SO_3Na , SO_3K ,
 $\text{SO}_3\text{N}(\text{C}_{1-8}\text{alkyl})_4$, fucosyl or and methylfucosyl.

13. (Withdrawn) The compound as claimed in claim 1 and of formula (Ib)



(Ib)

in which

Application No. 10/583,567
Amdt. dated March 4, 2009
Response to the Office Action of November 4, 2008

n represents 1, 2 or 3,

B represents

an arylene;

a heteroarylene comprising 1 or 2 hetero atoms chosen from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur;

a naphthylene;

a heteronaphthylene comprising 1 or 2 hetero atoms chosen from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur;

a divalent radical derived from 2 fused aromatic rings containing 5 or 6 atoms each;

a divalent radical derived from 2 fused aromatic or heteroaromatic rings containing 5 or 6 atoms each and comprising 1 or 2 hetero atoms chosen from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur;

a biphenylene; or a

heterobiphenylene comprising 1 or 2 hetero atoms chosen from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur;

these groups possibly being substituted with one or two substituents R^{12} and R^{13} chosen, independently of each other, from halogen, CN, $C(O)OR^{14}$, $C(O)NR^{15}R^{16}$, CF_3 , OCF_3 , $-NO_2$, N_3 , OR^{14} , SR^{14} , $NR^{15}R^{16}$ and C_{1-6} -alkyl;

Application No. 10/583,567
Amdt. dated March 4, 2009
Response to the Office Action of November 4, 2008

C represents a substituent chosen from -O-, -S-, -CH₂-, -CHR¹⁷-, -CR¹⁷R¹⁸-, -NH- or -NR¹⁹;

D represents a linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon-based chain containing from 2 to 20 carbon atoms;

E and G represent, independently of each other, a substituent chosen from H, OH, OR²⁰, NH₂, NHR²⁰;

R¹ represents a substituent chosen from H, C₁₋₆-alkyl, C(O)H, and C(O)CH₃;

R², R³, and R⁶ represent, independently of each other, a substituent chosen from H, C₁₋₆-alkyl, C(O)C₁₋₆-alkyl, -C(S)C₁₋₆-alkyl, -C(O)OC₁₋₆-alkyl, -C(O)NH₂, -C(S)NH₂, -C(NH)NH₂, -C(O)NHC₁₋₆-alkyl, -C(S)NHC₁₋₆-alkyl or -C(NH)NHC₁₋₆-alkyl;

R⁴ represents a substituent chosen from H, C₁₋₆-alkyl or R²¹;

R⁵ represents a substituent chosen from H, C₁₋₆-alkyl, fucosyl or R²²;

R⁷ represents a substituent chosen from H, C₁₋₆-alkyl, arabinosyl or R²³;

R⁸ represents a substituent chosen from H, C₁₋₆-alkyl, fucosyl, methylfucosyl, sulfofucosyl, acetylfucosyl, arabinosyl, SO₃H, SO₃Li, SO₃Na, SO₃K, SO₃N(C₁₋₈alkyl)₄ or R²⁴;

R⁹ represents a substituent chosen from H, C₁₋₆-alkyl, mannose, glycerol or R²⁵;

R¹⁰, R¹¹, R¹⁷ and R¹⁸ represent, independently of each other, a substituent chosen from C₁₋₆-alkyl or F;

Application No. 10/583,567
Amdt. dated March 4, 2009
Response to the Office Action of November 4, 2008

R^{14} , R^{15} , R^{16} and R^{19} represent, independently of each other, a substituent chosen from H or C_{1-6} -alkyl, $-C(O)C_{1-6}$ -alkyl, $-C(S)C_{1-6}$ -alkyl, $-C(O)OC_{1-6}$ -alkyl, $-C(O)NH_2$, $-C(S)NH_2$, $-C(NH)NH_2$, $-C(O)NHC_{1-6}$ -alkyl, $-C(S)NHC_{1-6}$ -alkyl or $-C(NH)NHC_{1-6}$ -alkyl;

R^{20} , R^{21} , R^{22} , R^{23} , R^{24} and R^{25} represent, independently of each other, a substituent chosen from $C(O)C_{1-6}$ -alkyl, $-C(S)C_{1-6}$ -alkyl, $-C(O)OC_{1-6}$ -alkyl, $-C(O)NH_2$, $-C(S)NH_2$, $-C(NH)NH_2$, $-C(O)NHC_{1-6}$ -alkyl, $-C(S)NHC_{1-6}$ -alkyl or $-C(NH)NHC_{1-6}$ -alkyl; and also the possible geometrical and/or optical isomers, enantiomers and/or diastereoisomers, tautomers, salts, N-oxides, sulfoxides, sulfones, and metal or metalloid complexes thereof, which are agriculturally acceptable. Among the compounds defined above, the most important compounds are the salts, more particularly the lithium, sodium, potassium or tetraalkylammonium salts.

14. (Withdrawn) The compound of formula (Ib) as claimed in claim 13, having one or other of the following characteristics, taken separately or in combination:

n represents 2 or 3;

B represents a phenylene;

C represents $-O-$;

D represents a linear, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon-based chain containing from 3 to 17 carbon atoms;

E and G represent $NHC(O)CH_3$;

Application No. 10/583,567
Amdt. dated March 4, 2009
Response to the Office Action of November 4, 2008

R^1 represents H or $C(O)CH_3$;

R^2 , R^3 , R^5 , R^6 , R^7 and R^9 represent H;

R^4 represents H, $C(O)CH_3$ or $C(O)NH_2$;

R^8 represents H, SO_3H , SO_3Li , SO_3Na , SO_3K , $SO_3N(C_{1-8}alkyl)_4$, fucosyl or methylfucosyl.

15. (Withdrawn) The compound of formula (Ib) as claimed in claim 13, simultaneously having the following characteristics:

n represents 2 or 3;

E and G represent $NHC(O)CH_3$;

R^1 represents H or $C(O)CH_3$;

R^2 , R^3 , R^5 , R^6 , R^7 and R^9 represent H;

R^4 represents H, $C(O)CH_3$ or $C(O)NH_2$;

R^8 represents H, SO_3H , SO_3Li , SO_3Na , SO_3K , $SO_3N(C_{1-8}alkyl)_4$, fucosyl or methylfucosyl.

16. (Withdrawn) The compound of formula (Ib) as claimed in claim 13 simultaneously having the following characteristics:

n represents 2 or 3;

D represents a linear, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon-based chain containing from 3 to 17 carbon atoms;

E and G represent $NHC(O)CH_3$;

Application No. 10/583,567

Amdt. dated March 4, 2009

Response to the Office Action of November 4, 2008

R^1 represents H or $C(O)CH_3$;

R^2 , R^3 , R^5 , R^6 , R^7 and R^9 represent H;

R^4 represents H, $C(O)CH_3$ or $C(O)NH_2$;

R^8 represents H, SO_3H , SO_3Li , SO_3Na , SO_3K , $SO_3N(C_{1-8}alkyl)_4$, fucosyl or methylfucosyl.

17. (Withdrawn) The compound of formula (Ib) as claimed in claim 13 simultaneously having the following characteristics:

n represents 2 or 3;

C represents -O-;

D represents a linear, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon-based chain containing from 3 to 17 carbon atoms;

E and G represent $NHC(O)CH_3$;

R^1 represents H or $C(O)CH_3$;

R^2 , R^3 , R^5 , R^6 , R^7 and R^9 represent H;

R^4 represents H, $C(O)CH_3$ or $C(O)NH_2$;

R^8 represents H, SO_3H , SO_3Li , SO_3Na , SO_3K , $SO_3N(C_{1-8}alkyl)_4$, fucosyl or methylfucosyl.

18. (Withdrawn) The compound of formula (Ib) as claimed in claim 13 simultaneously having the following characteristics:

n represents 2 or 3;

B represents a phenylene;

C represents -O-;

D represents a linear hydrocarbon-based chain containing 11 carbons, which is saturated, or unsaturated between carbons 4 and 5;

E and G represent NHC(O)CH_3 ;

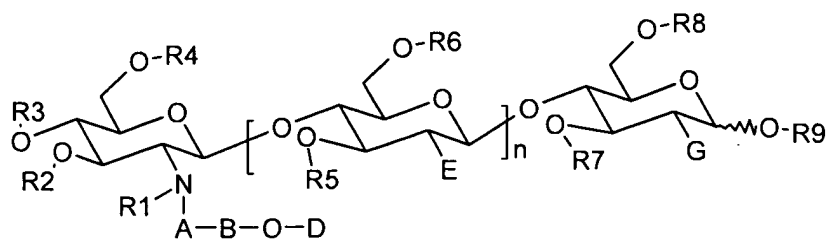
R^1 represents H or C(O)CH_3 ;

R^2 , R^3 , R^5 , R^6 , R^7 and R^9 represent H;

R^4 represents H, C(O)CH_3 or C(O)NH_2 ;

R^8 represents H, SO_3H , SO_3Li , SO_3Na , SO_3K , $\text{SO}_3\text{N}(\text{C}_1\text{-}_8\text{alkyl})_4$, fucosyl or methylfucosyl.

19. (Currently Amended) The compound as claimed in claim 1 and of formula (Ic)



(Ic)

in which

n represents 1, 2 or 3;

Application No. 10/583,567
Amdt. dated March 4, 2009
Response to the Office Action of November 4, 2008

A represents a substituent ~~chosen~~ selected from the group consisting of -C(O)-, -C(S)-, and -CH₂-, ~~-CHR¹⁰-, -CR¹⁰R¹¹-, -C(O)O-, -C(O)S-, -C(S)O-, -C(S)S-, -C(O)NH-, -C(NH)NH- or -C(S)NH-~~;

B ~~represents~~ is selected from the group consisting of

~~an arylene;~~

~~_____ a heteroarylene comprising 1 or 2 hetero atoms chosen from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur;~~

~~_____ and a naphthylene;~~

~~_____ a heteronaphthylene comprising 1 or 2 hetero atoms chosen from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur;~~

~~_____ a divalent radical derived from 2 fused aromatic rings containing 5 or 6 atoms each;~~

~~_____ a divalent radical derived from 2 fused aromatic or heteroaromatic rings containing 5 or 6 atoms each and comprising 1 or 2 hetero atoms chosen from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur;~~

~~_____ a biphenylene; or a~~

~~_____ heterobiphenylene comprising 1 or 2 hetero atoms chosen from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur;~~

Application No. 10/583,567
Amdt. dated March 4, 2009
Response to the Office Action of November 4, 2008

~~these groups possibly being substituted with one or two substituents R^{12} and R^{13} chosen, independently of each other, from halogen, CN, $C(O)OR^{14}$, $C(O)NR^{15}R^{16}$, CF_3 , OCF_3 , $-NO_2$, N_3 , OR^{14} , SR^{14} , $NR^{15}R^{16}$ and C_{1-6} -alkyl;~~

D represents a linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon-based chain containing from 2 to 20 carbon atoms;

E and G represent, independently of each other, a substituent ~~chosen~~ selected from the group consisting of H, OH, OR^{20} , NH_2 , NHR^{20} , $OC(O)CH_3$ and $NHC(O)CH_3$;

R^1 represents a substituent chosen from H, C_{1-6} -alkyl, $C(O)H$, and $C(O)CH_3$;

R^2 , R^3 , and R^6 represent, independently of each other, a substituent ~~chosen~~ selected from the group consisting of H, C_{1-6} -alkyl, $C(O)C_{1-6}$ -alkyl, $-C(S)C_{1-6}$ -alkyl, $-C(O)OC_{1-6}$ -alkyl, $-C(O)NH_2$, $-C(S)NH_2$, $-C(NH)NH_2$, $-C(O)NHC_{1-6}$ -alkyl, $-C(S)NHC_{1-6}$ -alkyl ~~or and~~ $-C(NH)NHC_{1-6}$ -alkyl;

R^4 represents a substituent ~~chosen~~ selected from the group consisting of H, C_{1-6} -alkyl ~~or and~~ R^{21} ;

R^5 represents a substituent ~~chosen~~ selected from the group consisting of H, C_{1-6} -alkyl, fucosyl ~~or and~~ R^{22} ;

R^7 represents a substituent ~~chosen~~ selected from the group consisting of H, C_{1-6} -alkyl, arabinosyl ~~or and~~ R^{23} ;

Application No. 10/583,567
Amdt. dated March 4, 2009
Response to the Office Action of November 4, 2008

R^8 represents a substituent ~~chosen~~ selected from the group consisting of H, C_{1-6} -alkyl, fucosyl, methylfucosyl, sulfofucosyl, acetylfucosyl, arabinosyl, SO_3H , SO_3Li , SO_3Na , SO_3K , $SO_3N(C_{1-8}alkyl)_4$ ~~or~~ and R^{24} ;

R^9 represents a substituent ~~chosen~~ selected from the group consisting of H, C_{1-6} -alkyl, mannose, glycerol ~~or~~ and R^{25} ;

~~R^{10} , R^{11} , R^{17} and R^{18} represent, independently of each other, a substituent chosen from C_{1-6} -alkyl or F;~~

~~—— R^{14} , R^{15} , R^{16} and R^{19} represent, independently of each other, a substituent chosen from H or C_{1-6} -alkyl, $-C(O)C_{1-6}$ -alkyl, $-C(S)C_{1-6}$ -alkyl, $-C(O)OC_{1-6}$ -alkyl, $-C(O)NH_2$, $-C(S)NH_2$, $-C(NH)NH_2$, $-C(O)NHC_{1-6}$ -alkyl, $-C(S)NHC_{1-6}$ -alkyl or $-C(NH)NHC_{1-6}$ -alkyl;~~

~~—— R^{20} , R^{21} , R^{22} , R^{23} , R^{24} and R^{25} represent, independently of each other, a substituent ~~chosen~~ selected from the group consisting of $C(O)C_{1-6}$ -alkyl, $-C(S)C_{1-6}$ -alkyl, $-C(O)OC_{1-6}$ -alkyl, $-C(O)NH_2$, $-C(S)NH_2$, $-C(NH)NH_2$, $-C(O)NHC_{1-6}$ -alkyl, $-C(S)NHC_{1-6}$ -alkyl ~~or~~ and $-C(NH)NHC_{1-6}$ -alkyl;~~

and also the possible geometrical and/or optical isomers, enantiomers and/or diastereoisomers, tautomers, salts, N-oxides, sulfoxides, sulfones, and metal or metalloid complexes thereof; ~~which~~ that are agriculturally acceptable. ~~Among the compounds defined above, the most important compounds are the salts, more particularly the lithium, sodium, potassium or tetraalkylammonium salts.~~

Application No. 10/583,567
Amdt. dated March 4, 2009
Response to the Office Action of November 4, 2008

20. (Currently Amended) The compound of formula (Ic) ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 19, having at least one or other of the following characteristics, ~~taken separately or in combination:~~

n represents 2 or 3;

A ~~represents~~ is selected from the group consisting of -C(O)- ~~or~~ and -CH₂-;

B represents a phenylene;

D represents a linear, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon-based chain containing from 3 to 17 carbon atoms;

E and G represent NHC(O)CH₃;

R¹ ~~represents~~ is selected from the group consisting of H, CH₃ ~~or~~ and C(O)CH₃;

R², R³, R⁵, R⁶, R⁷ and R⁹ represent H;

R⁴ ~~represents~~ is selected from the group consisting of H, C(O)CH₃ ~~or~~ and C(O)NH₂;

R⁸ ~~represents~~ is selected from the group consisting of H, SO₃H, SO₃Li, SO₃Na, SO₃K, SO₃N(C₁₋₈alkyl)₄, fucosyl ~~or~~ and methylfucosyl.

21. (Currently Amended) The compound of formula (Ic) ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 19; ~~simultaneously having the following characteristics wherein:~~

n represents 2 or 3;

A ~~represents~~ is selected from the group consisting of -C(O)- ~~or~~ and -CH₂-;

E and G represent NHC(O)CH₃;

R¹ ~~represents~~ is selected from the group consisting of H, CH₃ ~~or~~ and C(O)CH₃;

Application No. 10/583,567
Amdt. dated March 4, 2009
Response to the Office Action of November 4, 2008

R^2 , R^3 , R^5 , R^6 , R^7 and R^9 represent H;

R^4 ~~represents~~ is selected from the group consisting of H, $C(O)CH_3$ ~~or and~~ $C(O)NH_2$;

R^8 ~~represents~~ is selected from the group consisting of H, SO_3H , SO_3Li , SO_3Na , SO_3K , $SO_3N(C_{1-8}alkyl)_4$, fucosyl ~~or and~~ methylfucosyl.

22. (Currently Amended) The compound of formula (Ic) ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 19;
~~simultaneously having the following characteristics wherein:~~

n represents 2 or 3;

A ~~represents~~ is selected from the group consisting of $-C(O)-$ ~~or and~~ $-CH_2-$;

D represents a linear, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon-based chain containing from
3 to 17 carbon atoms;

E and G represent $NHC(O)CH_3$;

R^1 ~~represents~~ is selected from the group consisting of H, CH_3 ~~or and~~ $C(O)CH_3$;

R^2 , R^3 , R^5 , R^6 , R^7 and R^9 represent H;

R^4 ~~represents~~ is selected from the group consisting of H, $C(O)CH_3$ ~~or and~~ $C(O)NH_2$;

R^8 ~~represents~~ is selected from the group consisting of H, SO_3H , SO_3Li , SO_3Na , SO_3K , $SO_3N(C_{1-8}alkyl)_4$, fucosyl ~~or and~~ methylfucosyl.

23. (Currently Amended) The compound of formula (Ic) ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 19;
~~simultaneously having the following characteristics wherein:~~

Application No. 10/583,567

Amdt. dated March 4, 2009

Response to the Office Action of November 4, 2008

n represents 2 or 3;

A represents is selected from the group consisting of -C(O)- or and -CH₂-;

B represents a phenylene;

D represents a linear hydrocarbon-based chain containing 11 carbons, which is saturated,
or unsaturated between carbons 4 and 5;

E and G represent NHC(O)CH₃;

R¹ represents is selected from the group consisting of H, CH₃ or and C(O)CH₃;

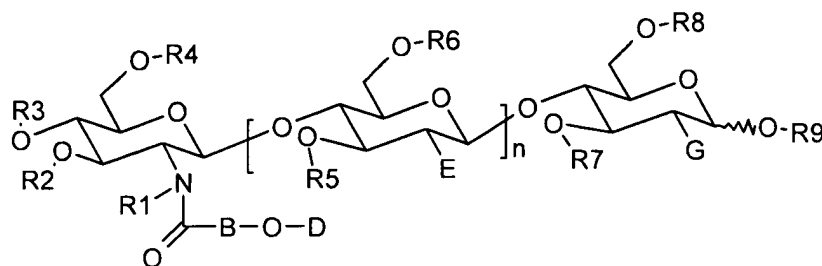
R¹ represents is selected from the group consisting of H or and CH₃;

R², R³, R⁵, R⁶, R⁷ and R⁹ represent H;

R⁴ represents is selected from the group consisting of H, C(O)CH₃ or and C(O)NH₂;

R⁸ represents is selected from the group consisting of H, SO₃H, SO₃Li, SO₃Na, SO₃K,
SO₃N(C₁₋₈alkyl)₄, fucosyl or and methylfucosyl.

24. (Currently Amended) The compound as claimed in claim 1 and of formula (Id)



(Id)

Application No. 10/583,567
Amdt. dated March 4, 2009
Response to the Office Action of November 4, 2008

in which

n represents 1, 2 or 3;

B represents is selected from the group consisting of

an arylene;

~~_____ a heteroarylene comprising 1 or 2 hetero atoms chosen from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur;~~

and a naphthylene;

~~_____ a heteronaphthylene comprising 1 or 2 hetero atoms chosen from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur;~~

~~_____ a divalent radical derived from 2 fused aromatic rings containing 5 or 6 atoms each;~~

~~_____ a divalent radical derived from 2 fused aromatic or heteroaromatic rings containing 5 or 6 atoms each and comprising 1 or 2 hetero atoms chosen from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur;~~

~~_____ a biphenylene; or a~~

~~_____ heterobiphenylene comprising 1 or 2 hetero atoms chosen from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur;~~

~~_____ these groups possibly being substituted with one or two substituents R¹² and R¹³ chosen, independently of each other, from halogen, CN, C(O)OR¹⁴, C(O)NR¹⁵R¹⁶, CF₃, OCF₃, NO₂, N₃, OR¹⁴, SR¹⁴, NR¹⁵R¹⁶ and C₁₋₆-alkyl;~~

Application No. 10/583,567
Amdt. dated March 4, 2009
Response to the Office Action of November 4, 2008

D represents a linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon-based chain containing from 2 to 20 carbon atoms;

E and G represent, independently of each other, a substituent ~~chosen~~ selected from the group consisting of H, OH, ΘR^{20} , NH_2 , NHR^{20} , $OC(O)CH_3$ and $NHC(O)CH_3$;

R¹ represents a substituent ~~chosen~~ selected from the group consisting of H, C₁₋₆-alkyl, C(O)H, and C(O)CH₃;

R², R³, and R⁶ represent, independently of each other, a substituent ~~chosen~~ selected from the group consisting of H, C₁₋₆-alkyl, C(O)C₁₋₆-alkyl, -C(S)C₁₋₆-alkyl, -C(O)OC₁₋₆-alkyl, -C(O)NH₂, -C(S)NH₂, -C(NH)NH₂, -C(O)NHC₁₋₆-alkyl, -C(S)NHC₁₋₆-alkyl ~~or~~ and -C(NH)NHC₁₋₆-alkyl;

R⁴ represents a substituent ~~chosen~~ selected from the group consisting of H, C₁₋₆-alkyl ~~or~~ and R²¹;

R⁵ represents a substituent ~~chosen~~ selected from the group consisting of H, C₁₋₆-alkyl, fucosyl ~~or~~ and R²²;

R⁷ represents a substituent ~~chosen~~ selected from the group consisting of H, C₁₋₆-alkyl, arabinosyl ~~or~~ and R²³;

R⁸ represents a substituent ~~chosen~~ selected from the group consisting of H, C₁₋₆-alkyl, fucosyl, methylfucosyl, sulfofucosyl, acetylfucosyl, arabinosyl, SO₃H, SO₃Li, SO₃Na, SO₃K, SO₃N(C₁₋₈alkyl)₄ ~~or~~ and R²⁴;

Application No. 10/583,567
Amdt. dated March 4, 2009
Response to the Office Action of November 4, 2008

R⁹ represents a substituent ~~chosen~~ selected from the group consisting of H, C₁₋₆-alkyl, mannose, glycerol ~~or~~ and R²⁵;

~~R¹⁰, R¹¹, R¹⁷ and R¹⁸ represent, independently of each other, a substituent chosen from C₁₋₆-alkyl or F;~~

~~———R¹⁴, R¹⁵, R¹⁶ and R¹⁹ represent, independently of each other, a substituent chosen from H or C₁₋₆-alkyl, -C(O)C₁₋₆-alkyl, -C(S)C₁₋₆-alkyl, -C(O)OC₁₋₆-alkyl, -C(O)NH₂, -C(S)NH₂, -C(NH)NH₂, -C(O)NHC₁₋₆-alkyl, -C(S)NHC₁₋₆-alkyl or -C(NH)NHC₁₋₆-alkyl;~~

~~———R²⁰, R²¹, R²², R²³, R²⁴ and R²⁵ represent, independently of each other, a substituent ~~chosen~~ selected from the group consisting of C(O)C₁₋₆-alkyl, -C(S)C₁₋₆-alkyl, -C(O)OC₁₋₆-alkyl, -C(O)NH₂, -C(S)NH₂, -C(NH)NH₂, -C(O)NHC₁₋₆-alkyl, -C(S)NHC₁₋₆-alkyl ~~or~~ and -C(NH)NHC₁₋₆-alkyl;~~

and also the possible geometrical and/or optical isomers, enantiomers and/or diastereoisomers, tautomers, salts, N-oxides, sulfoxides, sulfones, and metal or metalloid complexes thereof, ~~which~~ that are agriculturally acceptable. ~~Among the compounds defined above, the most important compounds are the salts, more particularly the lithium, sodium, potassium or tetraalkylammonium salts.~~

25. (Currently Amended) The compound of formula (Id) ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 24, having at least one ~~or other~~ of the following characteristics, ~~taken separately or in combination:~~

n represents 2 or 3;

Application No. 10/583,567
Amdt. dated March 4, 2009
Response to the Office Action of November 4, 2008

B represents a phenylene;

D represents a linear, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon-based chain containing from 3 to 17 carbon atoms;

E and G represent NHC(O)CH_3 ;

R^1 ~~represents~~ is selected from the group consisting of H or and CH_3 ;

R^2 , R^3 , R^5 , R^6 , R^7 and R^9 represent H;

R^4 ~~represents~~ is selected from the group consisting of H, C(O)CH_3 or and C(O)NH_2 ;

R^8 ~~represents~~ is selected from the group consisting of H, SO_3H , SO_3Li , SO_3Na , SO_3K , $\text{SO}_3\text{N}(\text{C}_{1-8}\text{alkyl})_4$, fucosyl or and methylfucosyl.

26. (Currently Amended) The compound of formula (Id) ~~as claimed in of~~ claim 24;
~~simultaneously having the following characteristics wherein:~~

n represents 2 or 3;

E and G represent NHC(O)CH_3 ;

R^1 ~~represents~~ is selected from the group consisting of H or and CH_3 ;

R^2 , R^3 , R^5 , R^6 , R^7 and R^9 represent H;

R^4 ~~represents~~ is selected from the group consisting of H, C(O)CH_3 or and C(O)NH_2 ;

R^8 ~~represents~~ is selected from the group consisting of H, SO_3H , SO_3Li , SO_3Na , SO_3K , $\text{SO}_3\text{N}(\text{C}_{1-8}\text{alkyl})_4$, fucosyl or and methylfucosyl.

Application No. 10/583,567
Amdt. dated March 4, 2009
Response to the Office Action of November 4, 2008

27. (Currently Amended) The compound of formula (Id) ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 24;
~~simultaneously having the following characteristics wherein:~~

n represents 2 or 3;

D represents a linear, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon-based chain containing from
3 to 17 carbon atoms;

E and G represent NHC(O)CH_3 ;

R^1 ~~represents~~ is selected from the group consisting of H or and CH_3 ;

R^2 , R^3 , R^5 , R^6 , R^7 and R^9 represent H;

R^4 ~~represents~~ is selected from the group consisting of H, C(O)CH_3 or and C(O)NH_2 ;

R^8 ~~represents~~ is selected from the group consisting of H, SO_3H , SO_3Li , SO_3Na , SO_3K ,
 $\text{SO}_3\text{N}(\text{C}_{1-8}\text{alkyl})_4$, fucosyl or and methylfucosyl.

28. (Currently Amended) The compound of formula (Id) ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 24;
~~simultaneously having the following characteristics wherein:~~

n represents 2 or 3;

B represents a phenylene;

D represents a linear hydrocarbon-based chain containing 11 carbons, which is saturated,
or unsaturated between carbons 4 and 5;

E and G represent NHC(O)CH_3 ;

R^1 ~~represents~~ is selected from the group consisting of H or and CH_3 ;

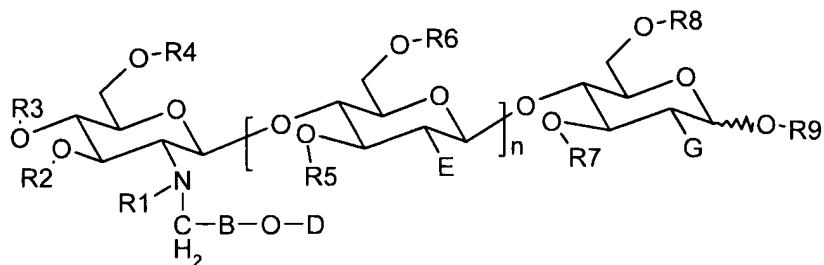
Application No. 10/583,567
Amdt. dated March 4, 2009
Response to the Office Action of November 4, 2008

R^2 , R^3 , R^5 , R^6 , R^7 and R^9 represent H;

R^4 represents is selected from the group consisting of H, C(O)CH₃ or and C(O)NH₂;

R^8 represents is selected from the group consisting of H, SO₃H, SO₃Li, SO₃Na, SO₃K, SO₃N(C₁₋₈alkyl)₄, fucosyl or and methylfucosyl.

29. (Withdrawn) The compound as claimed in claim 1 and of formula (Ie)



(Ie)

in which

n represents 1, 2 or 3;

B represents

an arylene;

a heteroarylene comprising 1 or 2 hetero atoms chosen from nitrogen, oxygen and

sulfur;

a naphthylene;

Application No. 10/583,567
Amdt. dated March 4, 2009
Response to the Office Action of November 4, 2008

a heteronaphthylene comprising 1 or 2 hetero atoms chosen from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur;

a divalent radical derived from 2 fused aromatic rings containing 5 or 6 atoms each;

a divalent radical derived from 2 fused aromatic or heteroaromatic rings containing 5 or 6 atoms each and comprising 1 or 2 hetero atoms chosen from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur;

a biphenylene; or a
heterobiphenylene comprising 1 or 2 hetero atoms chosen from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur;

these groups possibly being substituted with one or two substituents R^{12} and R^{13} chosen, independently of each other, from halogen, CN, $C(O)OR^{14}$, $C(O)NR^{15}R^{16}$, CF_3 , OCF_3 , $-NO_2$, N_3 , OR^{14} , SR^{14} , $NR^{15}R^{16}$ and C_{1-6} -alkyl;

D represents a linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon-based chain containing from 2 to 20 carbon atoms;

E and G represent, independently of each other, a substituent chosen from H, OH, OR^{20} , NH_2 , NHR^{20} ;

R^1 represents a substituent chosen from H, C_{1-6} -alkyl, $C(O)H$, and $C(O)CH_3$;

Application No. 10/583,567
Amdt. dated March 4, 2009
Response to the Office Action of November 4, 2008

R^2 , R^3 , and R^6 represent, independently of each other, a substituent chosen from H, C_{1-6} -alkyl, $C(O)C_{1-6}$ -alkyl, $-C(S)C_{1-6}$ -alkyl, $-C(O)OC_{1-6}$ -alkyl, $-C(O)NH_2$, $-C(S)NH_2$, $-C(NH)NH_2$, $-C(O)NHC_{1-6}$ -alkyl, $-C(S)NHC_{1-6}$ -alkyl or $-C(NH)NHC_{1-6}$ -alkyl;

R^4 represents a substituent chosen from H, C_{1-6} -alkyl or R^{21} ;

R^5 represents a substituent chosen from H, C_{1-6} -alkyl, fucosyl or R^{22} ;

R^7 represents a substituent chosen from H, C_{1-6} -alkyl, arabinosyl or R^{23} ;

R^8 represents a substituent chosen from H, C_{1-6} -alkyl, fucosyl, methylfucosyl, sulfofucosyl, acetylfucosyl, arabinosyl, SO_3H , SO_3Li , SO_3Na , SO_3K , $SO_3N(C_{1-8}alkyl)_4$ or R^{24} ;

R^9 represents a substituent chosen from H, C_{1-6} -alkyl, mannose, glycerol or R^{25} ;

R^{10} , R^{11} , R^{17} and R^{18} represent, independently of each other, a substituent chosen from C_{1-6} -alkyl or F;

R^{14} , R^{15} , R^{16} and R^{19} represent, independently of each other, a substituent chosen from H or C_{1-6} -alkyl, $-C(O)C_{1-6}$ -alkyl, $-C(S)C_{1-6}$ -alkyl, $-C(O)OC_{1-6}$ -alkyl, $-C(O)NH_2$, $-C(S)NH_2$, $-C(NH)NH_2$, $-C(O)NHC_{1-6}$ -alkyl, $-C(S)NHC_{1-6}$ -alkyl or $-C(NH)NHC_{1-6}$ -alkyl;

R^{20} , R^{21} , R^{22} , R^{23} , R^{24} and R^{25} represent, independently of each other, a substituent chosen from $C(O)C_{1-6}$ -alkyl, $-C(S)C_{1-6}$ -alkyl, $-C(O)OC_{1-6}$ -alkyl, $-C(O)NH_2$, $-C(S)NH_2$, $-C(NH)NH_2$, $-C(O)NHC_{1-6}$ -alkyl, $-C(S)NHC_{1-6}$ -alkyl or $-C(NH)NHC_{1-6}$ -alkyl;

and also the possible geometrical and/or optical isomers, enantiomers and/or diastereoisomers, tautomers, salts, N-oxides, sulfoxides, sulfones, and metal or metalloid complexes thereof, which are agriculturally acceptable. Among the compounds defined above, the most important

Application No. 10/583,567
Amdt. dated March 4, 2009
Response to the Office Action of November 4, 2008

compounds are the salts, more particularly the lithium, sodium, potassium or tetraalkylammonium salts.

30. (Withdrawn) The compound of formula (Ie) as claimed in claim 29, having one or other of the following characteristics, taken separately or in combination:

n represents 2 or 3;

B represents a phenylene;

D represents a linear, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon-based chain containing from 3 to 17 carbon atoms;

E and G represent NHC(O)CH_3 ;

R^1 represents H or C(O)CH_3 ;

R^2 , R^3 , R^5 , R^6 , R^7 and R^9 represent H;

R^4 represents H, C(O)CH_3 or C(O)NH_2 ;

R^8 represents H, SO_3H , SO_3Li , SO_3Na , SO_3K , $\text{SO}_3\text{N}(\text{C}_{1-8}\text{alkyl})_4$, fucosyl or methylfucosyl.

31. (Withdrawn) The compound of formula (Ie) as claimed in claim 29, simultaneously having the following characteristics:

n represents 2 or 3;

E and G represent NHC(O)CH_3 ;

R^1 represents H or C(O)CH_3 ;

Application No. 10/583,567
Amdt. dated March 4, 2009
Response to the Office Action of November 4, 2008

R^2 , R^3 , R^5 , R^6 , R^7 and R^9 represent H;

R^4 represents H, $C(O)CH_3$ or $C(O)NH_2$;

R^8 represents H, SO_3H , SO_3Li , SO_3Na , SO_3K , $SO_3N(C_{1-8}alkyl)_4$, fucosyl or methylfucosyl.

32. (Withdrawn) The compound of formula (Ie) as claimed in claim 29, simultaneously having the following characteristics:

n represents 2 or 3;

D represents a linear, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon-based chain containing from 3 to 17 carbon atoms;

E and G represent $NHC(O)CH_3$;

R^1 represents H or $C(O)CH_3$;

R^2 , R^3 , R^5 , R^6 , R^7 and R^9 represent H;

R^4 represents H, $C(O)CH_3$ or $C(O)NH_2$;

R^8 represents H, SO_3H , SO_3Li , SO_3Na , SO_3K , $SO_3N(C_{1-8}alkyl)_4$, fucosyl or methylfucosyl.

33. (Withdrawn) The compound of formula (Ie) as claimed in claim 29, simultaneously having the following characteristics:

n represents 2 or 3;

B represents a phenylene;

Application No. 10/583,567
Amdt. dated March 4, 2009
Response to the Office Action of November 4, 2008

D represents a linear hydrocarbon-based chain containing 11 carbons, which is saturated, or unsaturated between carbons 4 and 5;

E and G represent NHC(O)CH_3 ;

R^1 represents H or C(O)CH_3 ;

R^2 , R^3 , R^5 , R^6 , R^7 and R^9 represent H;

R^4 represents H, C(O)CH_3 or C(O)NH_2 ;

R^8 represents H, SO_3H , SO_3Li , SO_3Na , SO_3K , $\text{SO}_3\text{N}(\text{C}_{1-8}\text{alkyl})_4$, fucosyl or methylfucosyl.

34. (Currently Amended) The compound ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 1, ~~for which wherein~~

~~B represents~~ is selected from the group consisting of

a naphthylene~~[[;]]~~ and

an arylene;

~~a heteroarylene comprising 1 or 2 hetero atoms chosen from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur; or~~

~~— a heteronaphthylene comprising 1 or 2 hetero atoms chosen from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur;~~

these groups ~~possibly~~ optionally being substituted with one or two substituents R^{12} and R^{13} ~~chosen, independently of each other,~~ selected from the group consisting of halogen, CN, C(O)OR^{14} , $\text{C(O)NR}^{15}\text{R}^{16}$, CF_3 , OCF_3 , $-\text{NO}_2$, N_3 , OR^{14} , SR^{14} , $\text{NR}^{15}\text{R}^{16}$ and C_{1-6} -alkyl

wherein R¹⁴, R¹⁵, and R¹⁶ are independently selected from the group consisting of H, C₁₋₆-alkyl, C(O)C₁₋₆-alkyl, -C(S)C₁₋₆-alkyl, -C(O)OC₁₋₆-alkyl, -C(O)NH₂, -C(S)NH₂, -C(NH)NH₂, -C(O)NHC₁₋₆-alkyl, -C(S)NHC₁₋₆-alkyl and -C(NH)NHC₁₋₆-alkyl.

35. (Currently Amended) The compound ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 1, for which wherein

B represents

an arylene;

~~_____ or a heteroarylene comprising 1 or 2 hetero atoms chosen from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur;~~

~~_____ these groups possibly optionally~~ being substituted with one or two substituents R¹² and R¹³ ~~chosen, independently of each other, selected from the group consisting of~~ halogen, CN, C(O)OR¹⁴, C(O)NR¹⁵R¹⁶, CF₃, OCF₃, -NO₂, N₃, OR¹⁴, SR¹⁴, NR¹⁵R¹⁶ and C₁₋₆-alkyl wherein R¹⁴, R¹⁵, and R¹⁶ are independently selected from the group consisting of H, C₁₋₆-alkyl, C(O)C₁₋₆-alkyl, -C(S)C₁₋₆-alkyl, -C(O)OC₁₋₆-alkyl, -C(O)NH₂, -C(S)NH₂, -C(NH)NH₂, -C(O)NHC₁₋₆-alkyl, -C(S)NHC₁₋₆-alkyl and -C(NH)NHC₁₋₆-alkyl.

36. (Currently Amended) The compound ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 1, for which wherein

B represents

a phenylene; ~~or a~~

Application No. 10/583,567

Amdt. dated March 4, 2009

Response to the Office Action of November 4, 2008

~~_____ heterophenylene comprising 1 or 2 hetero atoms chosen from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur;~~

~~_____ these groups possibly optionally being substituted with one or two substituents R^{12} and R^{13} chosen, independently of each other, selected from the group consisting of halogen, CN, $C(O)OR^{14}$, $C(O)NR^{15}R^{16}$, CF_3 , OCF_3 , $-NO_2$, N_3 , OR^{14} , SR^{14} , $NR^{15}R^{16}$ and C_{1-6} -alkyl wherein R^{14} , R^{15} , and R^{16} are independently selected from the group consisting of H, C_{1-6} -alkyl, $C(O)C_{1-6}$ -alkyl, $-C(S)C_{1-6}$ -alkyl, $-C(O)OC_{1-6}$ -alkyl, $-C(O)NH_2$, $-C(S)NH_2$, $-C(NH)NH_2$, $-C(O)NHC_{1-6}$ -alkyl, $-C(S)NHC_{1-6}$ -alkyl and $-C(NH)NHC_{1-6}$ -alkyl.~~

37. (Withdrawn) The compound as claimed in claim 1, for which B represents a substituent chosen from:

B1		B6		B11		B16	
B2		B7		B12		B17	
B3		B8		B13		B18	
B4		B9		B14		B19	
B5		B10		B15		B20	

in which R^{12} and R^{13} represent two substituents chosen, independently of each other, from halogen, CN, CF_3 , OCF_3 , $-NO_2$, N_3 , OR^{14} , SR^{14} , $NR^{15}R^{16}$ and C_{1-6} -alkyl.

38. (Withdrawn) The compound as claimed in claim 37, for which B represents a phenylene B1 that may be substituted with one or two substituents R^{12} and R^{13} chosen, independently of each other, from halogen, CN, CF_3 , OCF_3 , $-NO_2$, N_3 , OR^{14} , SR^{14} , $NR^{15}R^{16}$ and C_{1-6} -alkyl.

39. (Currently Amended) The compound as claimed in claim 1, having at least one of the following characteristics; ~~taken separately or in combination:~~

Application No. 10/583,567
Amdt. dated March 4, 2009
Response to the Office Action of November 4, 2008

n = 2 or 3;

A ~~represents~~ is selected from the group consisting of -C(O)- or and -CH₂-;

C represents -O-;

E and G represent NHC(O)CH₃;

R¹ ~~represents~~ is selected from the group consisting of H or and C(O)CH₃;

R², R³, R⁵, R⁶, and R⁷ represent a hydrogen atom;

R⁴ represents a substituent ~~chosen~~ selected from the group consisting of H, C(O)CH₃ and C(O)NH₂;

R⁸ represents a substituent ~~chosen~~ selected from the group consisting of H, fucosyl, methylfucosyl, sulfofucosyl, acetylfucosyl, arabinosyl, SO₃H, SO₃Li, SO₃Na, SO₃K and SO₃N(C₁₋₈alkyl)₄;

R⁹ represents a hydrogen atom.

40. (Currently Amended) The compound ~~as claimed in of~~ claim 1, having all of the following characteristics wherein:

n = 2 or 3;

A ~~represents~~ is selected from the group consisting of -C(O)- or and -CH₂-;

C represents -O-;

E and G represent NHC(O)CH₃;

R¹ ~~represents~~ is selected from the group consisting of H or and C(O)CH₃;

Application No. 10/583,567
Amdt. dated March 4, 2009
Response to the Office Action of November 4, 2008

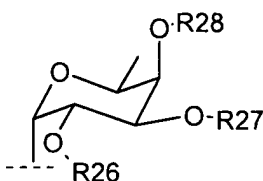
R^2 , R^3 , R^5 , R^6 , and R^7 represent a hydrogen atom;

R^4 represents a substituent ~~chosen~~ selected from the group consisting of H, $C(O)CH_3$ ~~or~~ and $C(O)NH_2$;

R^8 represents a substituent ~~chosen~~ selected from the group consisting of H, fucosyl, methylfucosyl, sulfofucosyl, acetylfucosyl, arabinosyl, SO_3H , SO_3Li , SO_3Na , SO_3K ~~or~~ and $SO_3N(C_{1-8}alkyl)_4$; and

R^9 represents a hydrogen atom.

41. (Currently Amended) The compound ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 1, ~~for which~~ wherein R^8 ~~represents~~ is selected from the group consisting of H, SO_3H , SO_3Li , SO_3Na , SO_3K , $SO_3N(C_{1-8}alkyl)_4$ ~~or~~ and a substituent of formula:



~~in which~~ wherein

R^{26} represents a substituent ~~chosen~~ selected from the group consisting of H and CH_3 ;

R^{27} and R^{28} represent, independently of each other, a substituent ~~chosen~~ selected from the group consisting of H, $C(O)CH_3$, SO_3H , SO_3Li , SO_3Na , SO_3K and $SO_3N(C_{1-8}alkyl)_4$.

Application No. 10/583,567
Amdt. dated March 4, 2009
Response to the Office Action of November 4, 2008

42. (Currently Amended) The compound ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 41, ~~for which~~ wherein R^{26} , R^{27} and R^{28} ~~represent~~ each represents a hydrogen atom.

43. (Previously Presented) The compound as claimed in claim 1, for which D represents a linear, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon-based chain containing from 7 to 15 carbon atoms.

44. (Previously Presented) The compound as claimed in claim 1, for which D represents a hydrocarbon-based chain according to one of the formulae represented below

D1		D4	
D2		D5	
D3		D6	

in which

$$m = 1 \text{ to } 12$$

$$p = 0 \text{ to } 11$$

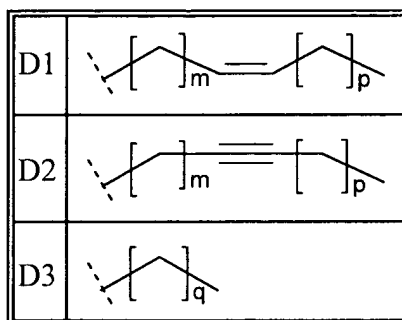
$$q = 6 \text{ to } 14$$

$$s = 5 \text{ to } 13$$

with $m+p \leq 12$ and $m+p \geq 4$.

Application No. 10/583,567
Amdt. dated March 4, 2009
Response to the Office Action of November 4, 2008

45. (Currently Amended) The compound ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 1 ~~or which~~ wherein D represents a hydrocarbon-based chain according to one of the formulae represented below



in which

$$m = 1 \text{ to } 12$$

$$p = 0 \text{ to } 11$$

$$q = 6 \text{ to } 14$$

with $m+p \leq 12$ and $m+p \geq 4$;

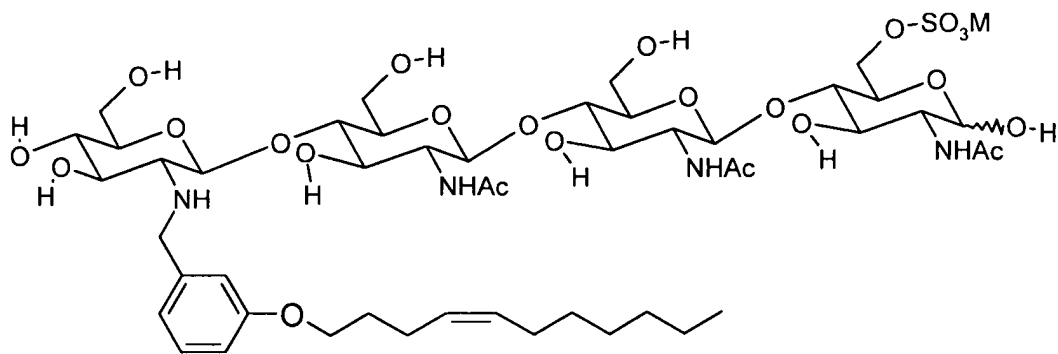
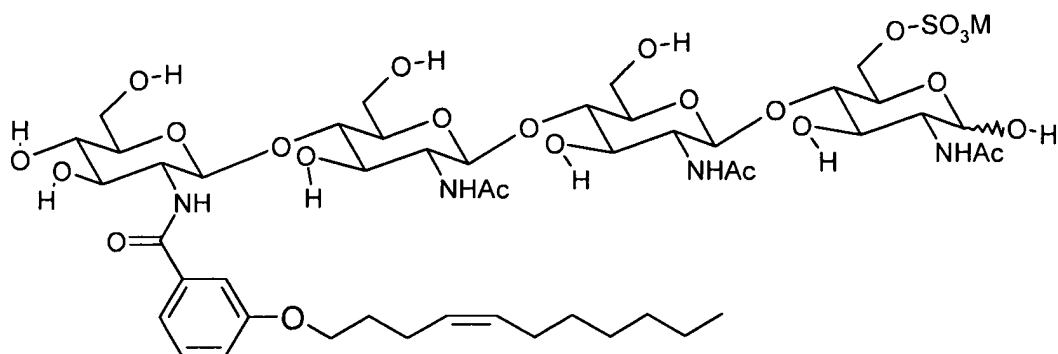
46. (Currently Amended) The compound ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 1, ~~for which~~ wherein D represents a linear hydrocarbon-based chain ~~containing~~ comprising 11 carbon atoms, ~~which that~~ is saturated, or unsaturated between carbon atoms 4 and 5.

47. (Currently Amended) The compound ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 1, corresponding to one of the following formulae:

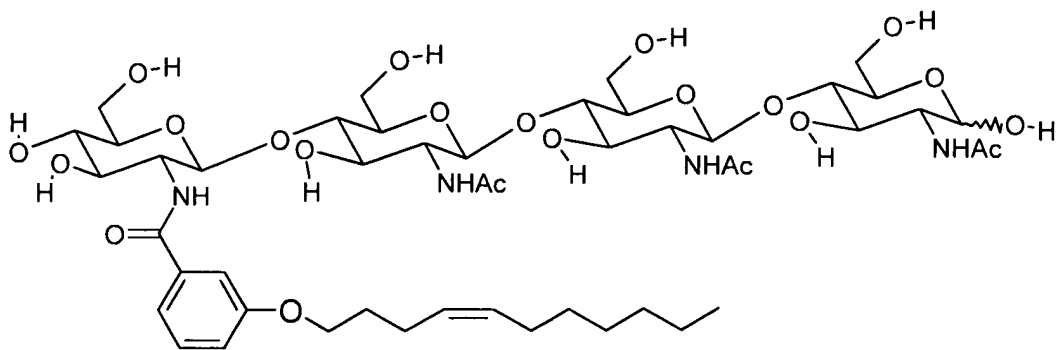
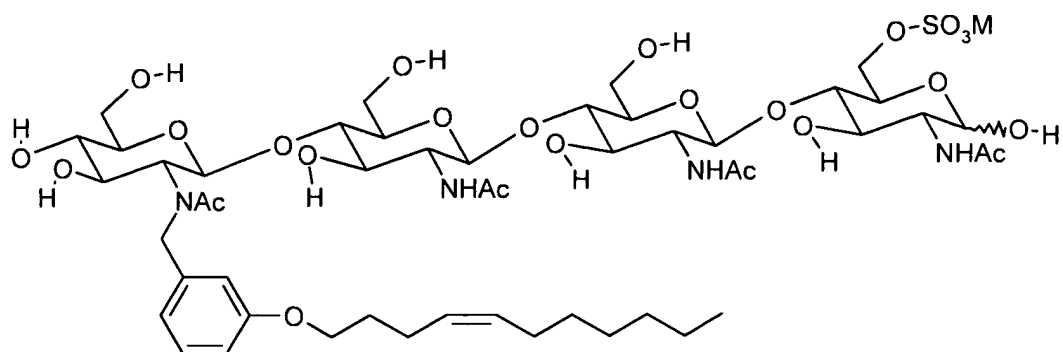
Application No. 10/583,567

Amdt. dated March 4, 2009

Response to the Office Action of November 4, 2008



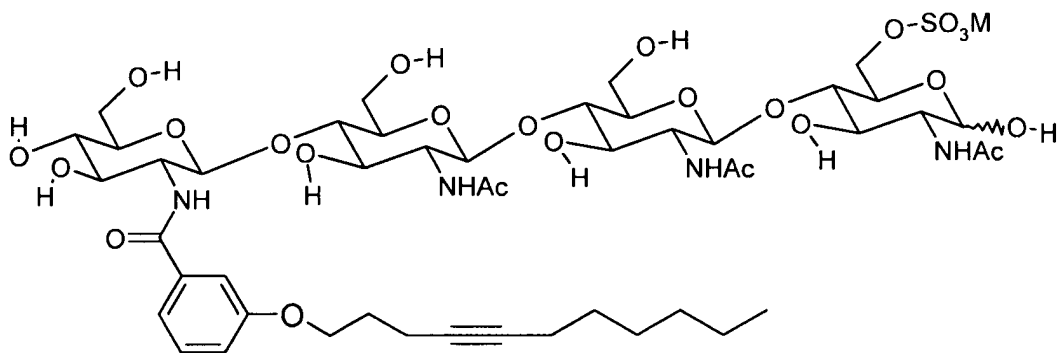
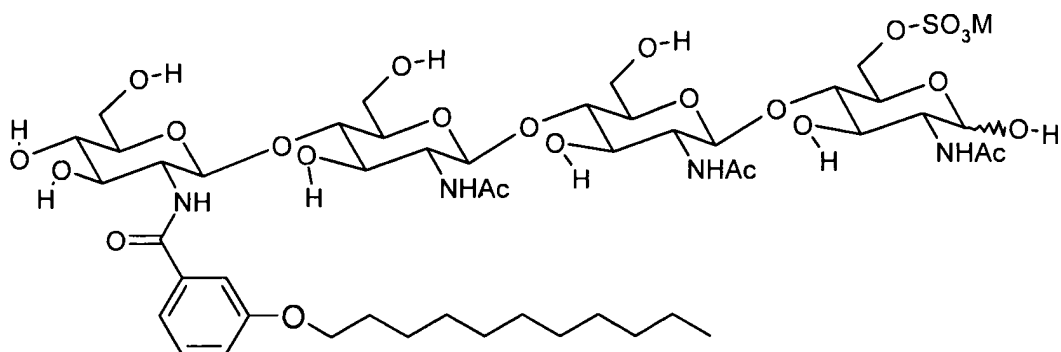
Response to the Office Action of November 4, 2008



Application No. 10/583,567

Amdt. dated March 4, 2009

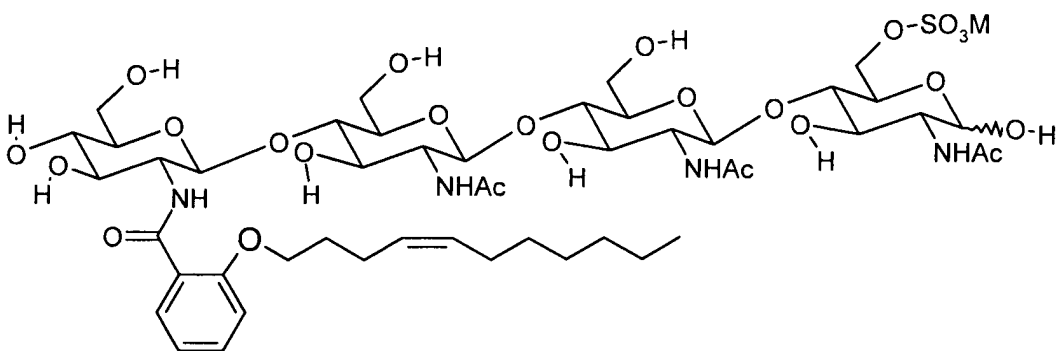
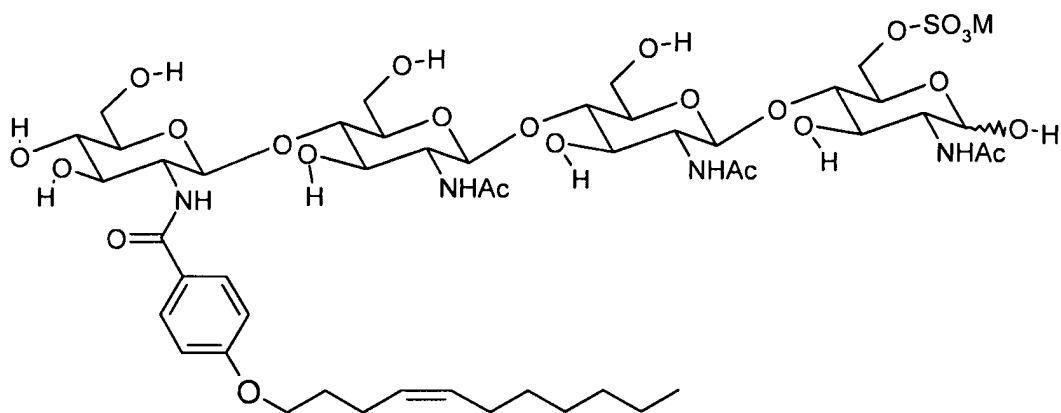
Response to the Office Action of November 4, 2008

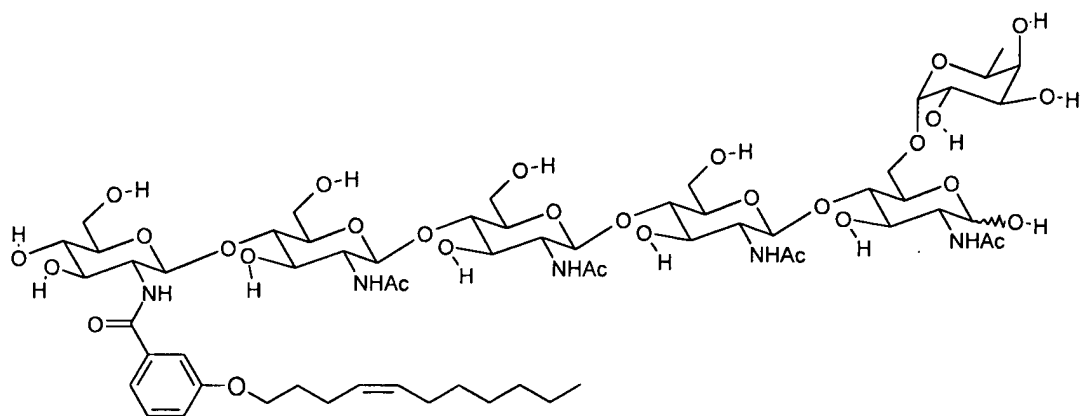


Application No. 10/583,567

Amdt. dated March 4, 2009

Response to the Office Action of November 4, 2008





in which, when it is present, M represents a cation ~~chosen~~ selected from the group consisting of H⁺, Li⁺, Na⁺, K⁺ and (C₁₋₈alkyl)₄N⁺.

48. (Withdrawn) The use of a compound as claimed in claim 1, as a nodulation factor for a plant.

49. (Withdrawn) The use as claimed in claim 48, characterized in that said plant is a legume.

Application No. 10/583,567
Amdt. dated March 4, 2009
Response to the Office Action of November 4, 2008

50. (Withdrawn) The use as claimed in claim 49, characterized in that said legume is soybean, pea, horse bean, groundnut, bean, lupin, alfalfa or clover.

51. (Withdrawn) The use of a compound as claimed in claim 1, as a plant growth stimulation factor

52. (Withdrawn) A process for treating seeds, comprising the application, alone or as a combination with other active molecules, of one or more compound(s) as defined in claim 1.